

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 NIC-01 SAJ-01

CU-04 DRC-01 /125 W

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R 290655Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9776

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL POZNAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WARSAW 3710

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, PL

SUBJECT: SEJM APPROVES LABOR CODE AND IMPORTANT PERSONAL CHANGE

REF: (A) WARSAW 0948; (B) WARSAW 3048

1. SUMMARY. THE SEJM ON JUNE 26 FORMALLY APPROVED THE COMPREHENSIVE NEW LABOR CODE WHICH WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE JAN 1. IT ALSO APPROVED THE PLAN AND BUDGET PERFORMANCE FOR LAST YEAR AND APPOINTED STANISLAW WRONSKI TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE. END SUMMMARY.

2. A SUCCESSION OF SPEAKERS, INCLUDING PREMIER JAROSZEWICZ, HAILED THE LABOR CODE, WHICH HAD BEEN MANY MONTHS IN PREPARATION, AS A "LABOR CONSTITUTION" AND THE FIRST SUCH LABOR CODIFICATION IN POLISH HISTORY. ALTHOUGH THE TEXT HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED, IT IS CLEAR FROM PRESS DISCUSSION THAT AMONG THE MAJOR EXPECTED RESULTS WILL BE STRENGTHENING OF WORKER RIGHTS, EQUALIZING BLUE AND WHITE COLLAR WORKERS THROUGH A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, AND SYNCHRONIZING RIGHTS WITH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS REQUIREMENTS.

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3. JAROSZEWICZ LINKED THE CODE WITH THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PEOPLE'S POLAND, CALLING IT A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PARTY, THE STATE, AND THE LABOR ORGANIZATIONS TO THE FORMATION OF SOCIAL POLICY. HE FURTHER DEPICTED IT AS AN EXPRESSION OF THE BASIC SOCIALIST ETHIC WITH ITS HUMANISTIC FEATURES. HOWEVER, HE CAUTIONED THAT SUCCESSFUL REALIZATION OF THE CODE'S AIMS CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED THROUGH SUSTAINED GROWTH IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND LABOR PRODUCTIVITY AS WELL AS BY INCREASINGLY EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT. WHILE SAYING THAT THE PARTY AND LABOR GROUPS WOULD HAVE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE CHANGES, JAROSZEWICZ ALSO SINGLED OUT THE RECENTLY REVAMPED PEOPLE'S COUNCILS WHICH HE INDICATED WOULD APPOINT SPECIAL COMMISSIONS FOR LABOR MATTERS.

4. JAROSZEWICZ AND OTHERS ALSO CITED THE "PRINCIPLE" OF ONE-MAN MANAGEMENT, AND THE LABOR CODE WILL APPARENTLY ENHANCE MANAGERIAL AUTHORITY IN ROUTINE DISCIPLINARY MATTERS SUCH AS ALCOHOLISM, ABSENTEEISM, AND THE LIKE, AT THE SAME TIME, IT EVIDENTLY WILL PROTECT THE WORKER AGAINST SUCH THINGS AS SUMMARY DISCHARGE, WHILE PROVIDING FOR OTHER ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL BENEFITS.

5. THE SEJM ALSO APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO STANISLAW WRONSKI TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

6. COMMENT. PASSAGE OF THE LABOR CODE REPRESENTS ANOTHER IN A SERIES OF MEASURES THE GIEREK REGIME HAS TAKEN TO STRENGTHEN OPERATIONS AND IMPROVE CONDITIONS IN VARIOUS SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL AREAS. IT IS NATURALLY BEING PROTRAYED AS A MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SOCIALISM AND WILL PROVIDE GRIST FOR THE PROPAGANDA MILLS BOTH IN THE REGIME'S EFFORT TO MAINTAIN ITS WORKER/CONSUMER-ORIENTED IMAGE AS WELL AS IN ITS CELEBRATIONS OF THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THIRTY YEARS OF PEOPLE'S POLAND THIS JULY.

7. THE WRONSKI APPOINTMENT COMPLETES THE ACTION FOLLOWING HIS REMOVAL AS MINISTER OF CULTURE (REF A). HE IS BEING KICKED UPSTAIRS VIA THIS APPOINTMENT TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE AND WILL FILL THE VACANCY CREATED THERE WHEN SZLACHCIC WAS REMOVED IN CONNECTION WITH HIS RECENT APPOINTMENT AS DEPUTY PREMIER (REF B). END COMMENT.

DAVIES

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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